

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	Korea	REPORT		25X1
SUBJECT	Population Problems in P'yongyang City	DATE DISTR.	// August 1955	
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PLACE ACQUIRED		REFERENCES		25X1
DATE ACQUIRED		This is UNEVALUATED Information		

ALL INFORMATION IS RELATIVE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

Personnel Reduction

1. In February 1955 a large reduction of government employees occurred. The personnel of approximately one-half of the government "trusts" was reduced by 30 percent. The reason given by the government for this reduction was that many of the priority government reconstruction projects were near completion and there was no longer a need for these people in the city; many were urged to move into the country and take part in collective farming.¹
2. The people dismissed from these trusts were:
 - a. Inefficient workers.
 - b. Persons who were former farmers.
 - c. Collaborators with the United Nations Forces.
3. All dependents of convicted and imprisoned collaborators with United Nations Forces, "thought" offenders, and any women who have offended public decency are to be deported about 50 ri² north of P'yongyang City, according to a recent cabinet decision. These people will have an appropriate mark placed on their citizenship cards indicating the reason for their change of locale.³

Restrictions on Population Movement

4. As of the summer of 1954, people living in the country were not permitted to move to large cities because of the government efforts to increase the population of rural areas. Only government officials under orders are being permitted to transfer their residence to large cities.

1. Comment. These reductions were made because P'yongyang is overpopulated, while the collective farms are in great need of help to meet their quotas. Although all farms were urged to welcome such unemployed

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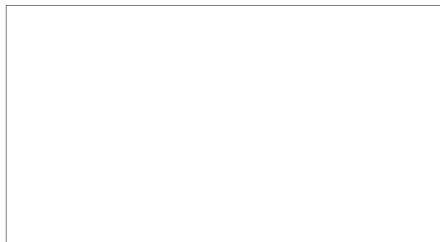
persons, not many have voluntarily left the city.

2.  Comment. One Korean ri equals 0.26098 miles.

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3.  Comment. This class of people is not welcomed in North Korea and it is almost impossible for them to find employment.

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